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TIME

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October 31, 1982

William J. Casey, Director of Central Intelligence, Central Intelligence Agency, Washington D.C. 20505.

Dear Mr Casey,

At lunch last month and in a subsequent letter, I indicated that TIME was interested in doing a major article on the U.S. intelligence establishment as it is evolving under your direction. As you probably know, TIME has, in the past, devoted a number of cover stories to DCIs and the agencies in their charge, and we now feel the time is perhaps right to do the same thing again. Much has happened on the intelligence front since our last "takeout", and we believe it may serve both your interests and ours to bring our readers up to date.

We understand, of course, that a considerable amount of discretion is required in a project of this kind and that you might not feel able to address a number of intelligence issues (several topics spring to mind!). But it's our belief that certain issues could profitably be discussed, and in view of some of the highly speculative stories that have appeared in the media in recent months, perhaps ought to be discussed. We are thinking, for example, about the issue of tighter security and the potential conflict with civil liberties, the very important issue of the growing soviet threat that has to be faced up to, and the thorny problem of covert operations. We would also hope to cover more practical issues such as the steps you have taken to rebuild morale within the intelligence agencies and how you see the U.S. intelligence establishment as a whole evolving to meet the challenges of the 80s and beyond.

We have not yet fixed a date for our intended takeout -- much will depend on your willingness to talk with us and your availability in the weeks ahead -- but we are aiming for sometime early in the New Year, or even sooner, if that's possible.

We look forward to hearing from you and trust you can find some time to give us your views. Should you require more precise information about the scope of our 'project', please don't hesitate to let us know and we will do our best to provide it.

Yours Sincerely,

Chris Redman.

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